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Garth Ennis Russ Braun Darick Robertson

# The BOYS™

SIXTY-ONE

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Garth Ennis  Darick Robertson

# The BOYS™

## SIXTY-ONE

In a world where costumed heroes soar through the sky and masked vigilantes prowl the night, someone's got to make sure the "supes" don't get out of line. And someone will.

Billy Butcher, Wee Hughie, Mother's Milk, The Frenchman and The Female are The Boys: a CIA-backed team of very dangerous people, each one dedicated to the struggle against the most lethal force on Earth- superpower. Some superheroes have to be watched. Some have to be controlled. And some of them- sometimes- need to be taken out of the picture.

That's when you call in **The Boys**.

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# OVER THE HILL WITH THE SWORDS OF A THOUSAND MEN

## part two

ONE KISS. WE COULDN'T EVEN FINISH ONE KISS.

WHAT HAPPENED, DID YOU INSTANTLY FLASH ON ME AND--

DON'T...

STOP THAT SHIT.

YOU KNOW WHAT I DID. YOU SAW ME DO IT.

STOP THESE AWFUL HISTRIONICS EVERY TIME IT COMES UP; EITHER LIVE WITH IT OR GET RID OF ME FOR GOOD.

ALL RIGHT, I'M SORRY. I REALLY AM. BUT IT'S NO' AS SIMPLE AS THAT, I HAD--

I HAD A DREAM...

WHAT?

IT'S ONE I'VE HAD BEFORE. SORT OF A VARIATION ON A THEME.

IT'S BEEN GETTIN' WORSE.

YOU SEE, THERE'S THESE TWO...GAY ALIENS...

COME AGAIN?

HHHH.

WHEN THE THING HAPPENED WI' ROBIN I WAS TELLIN' HER ABOUT GAY ALIENS. SO NOW THEY COME INTO MY DREAMS TO REMIND ME WHAT A HYPOCRITE I AM, OR SOMETHIN'.

ANYWAY.

I SEE ROBIN. SHE'S WITH A-TRAIN. THEY LOOK REALLY, REALLY HAPPY, AN' THEN SHE TURNS INTO YOU.

YOU START DANCIN' WITH HIM. YOU SPIN ROUND AN' ROUND, FASTER AN' FASTER, AN' THEN--

"WELL.

"IN THIS LATEST VERSION:"

AND WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO SAY TO THAT?

EH--?

IT'S ALWAYS SOMETHING WITH YOU, HUGHIE. SOME NEW TWIST TO AGONIZE OVER, SOME REASON NOT TO MOVE ON AND BE HAPPY.

WE LIED TO EACH OTHER AND WE CAME CLEAN. AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED IT'S ALL DEBTS PAID, ALL SINS FORGIVEN. BUT YOU SEEM TO WANT TO WALLOW IN IT FOREVER.

I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE I'M JUST SICK OF THIS ***MEN ARE THE NEW WOMEN*** STUFF...

DO SOMETHING TO FIX IT.

PLEASE.

MOMMA, C'MON, KNOCK IT OFF--

MAH BOOYYYYY

MOMMA, I GOTTA ANSWER MY PHONE--!

MAH BOOYYYYY

DAMN.

YEAH?

DADDY?

JANINE?!

DADDY, I'M SO SORRY.

JANINE-- HONEY--OH JESUS--

DADDY, I'M OKAY. I'M GOING TO BE OKAY.

HONEY, TELL ME WHERE YOU AT--I GOTTA COME GET YOU, I GOTTA--

NO, DADDY, PLEASE DON'T DO THAT...

JANINE, WHAT THE FUCK THAT FUCKIN' CUNT DO TO YOU?!

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I AIN'T GONNA DO THAT AGAIN.

DADDY... I GOT AWAY FROM HER.

YOU DID?

JANINE, TELL ME WHERE YOU AT, I *GOTTA* COME GET YOU...

NO.

PLEASE JUST LISTEN TO ME FOR A SECOND.

MOM GOT ME INTO...SHE HAS THESE FRIENDS IN THE VALLEY. THEY'RE REALLY GROSS. BUT SHE WANTED TO GET BACK AT YOU, AND I WANTED TO GET BACK AT YOU--BUT--

I WAS WRONG. I WAS SO WRONG. BUT I GOT AWAY FROM HER, AND, AND I GOT MY HEAD STRAIGHT. YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME ANYMORE.

HONEY, HOW CAN I NOT WORRY ABOUT YOU? I'M SCARED OUTTA MY MIND FOR YOU, *PLEASE* TELL ME--

I WILL. I WILL. JUST GIVE ME SOME TIME AND I'LL CALL YOU, AND YOU CAN COME SEE ME--BUT RIGHT NOW I JUST NEED TO BE ON MY OWN.

I'M SOMEWHERE MOM CAN'T FIND ME, DADDY. AND THAT'S HOW IT'S GOING TO BE FROM NOW ON. I **PROMISE YOU:**

I'M NEVER GOING NEAR MOM AGAIN.

THE ORIGINAL IDEA WAS THAT THEY'D BE SIDEKICKS. THE WHOLE TEAM WOULD BE MADE UP OF SIDEKICKS.

THERE WAS THE OBVIOUS APPEAL TO THE TEENAGE MARKET. ALSO--FRANKLY--TAKING THE WARD AWAY FROM THE SENIOR PARTNER IN SOME OF THESE DUOS, IT HELPED TO REDUCE THE TEMPTATION FACTOR.

BUT OVER THE YEARS THE SIDEKICKS GREW UP, AND YOU HAD TEENAGE KIX AND THE YOUNG AMERICANS COMING ALONG TO TAKE CARE OF THE YOUNGER DEMOGRAPHIC. AND GRADUALLY THEY STARTED MAKING UP THE NUMBERS WITH WHOEVER DIDN'T FIT IN ANYWHERE ELSE.

THAT DOESN'T INSPIRE A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE...

OH, MAKE NO MISTAKE, TEAM TITANIC INCLUDES SOME VERY POWERFUL INDIVIDUALS. THEIR PROBLEM HAS ALWAYS BEEN ONE OF FOCUS.

BUT THAT CAN BE AN ADVANTAGE, TOO. WHENEVER WE DEEM IT NECESSARY TO DISBAND OR REORGANIZE, FEW TEARS ARE SHED FOR THE GROUP'S PARTICULAR INCARNATION AT THAT TIME.

YOU'RE SAYING THEY MAKE GOOD CANNON FODDER...

I'M SAYING THEY MAKE GOOD CANNON FODDER.

AFTER YOU.

MS. BRADLEY, THIS IS JIMMY THE ONE, THE STARLIKE, REGINA DENTATA, MUZZELTOV, COUNTRY MAMA, DRY-HUMP, EARL MULCH AND SNAFFLETWAT, AND GUMCHUM.

TEAM TITANIC: MS. JESSICA BRADLEY.

YA WANT GUM?

AH, HELLO--

KCUS YM KCOC!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO HAVE A WORD?

MUZZELTOV, KNOCK IT OFF, MAN...

TOGGAF!

CAN HE REALLY...?

NO, BUT HE CAN HYPNOTIZE PEOPLE. THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER WHICH WAY ROUND HE SPEAKS.

IF I CAN HAVE EVERYONE'S ATTENTION FOR A MOMENT?

YESTERDAY'S TRAGIC EVENTS HAVE UNDERSTANDABLY GIVEN RISE TO A DEGREE OF TENSION WITHIN THE CORPORATE COMMUNITY. VOUGHT-AMERICAN ARE DETERMINED TO GET THROUGH THIS DIFFICULT TIME WITH THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM OF DISRUPTION.

TO THAT END, YOU HAVE TWO ABSOLUTE PRIORITIES. THE FIRST IS TO PROTECT ME.

THE SECOND IS TO PROTECT MS. BRADLEY. SHE IS AS IMPORTANT TO THE FUTURE OF THIS COMPANY AS ANY OTHER SENIOR OFFICER.

OUR SECURITY PERSONNEL WILL PERFORM THEIR NORMAL DUTIES. THESE ORDERS ARE SPECIFIC TO YOUR TEAM.

QUESTIONS?

UH, I GUESS WE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THE STAR TOWER...

YEAH, IT NEEDS SOME WORK.

IT NEEDS DEMOLISHING. IT'S A PIGSTY.

TSUJ TEG SU TUO FO GNIKCUF *DNALEVELC!*

AN' HOW 'BOUT THE DAMN ROYALTIES, THAT CONTRACT AIN'T BEEN REWRITTEN SINCE FORD WAS IN THE--

IS ANY OF THIS RELEVANT?

UH...

WELL THEN.

WHAT'S...?

THE *CONTRACT.*

DO YOU WANT *YOUR* COPY?

NO, MAN. IF THIS IS THE END, LET'S JUST SAY FUCK IT AND GO.

A VERY *SHORT-SIGHTED* ATTITUDE. *FINANCIAL SECURITY* IS NOT A MATTER TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY; I HAVE AN EXCELLENT *ACCOUNTANT* IF YOU--

WHATEVER...

IT IS BY NO MEANS *CERTAIN* THAT THIS IS THE END OF *ANYTHING.* THE CURRENT *CRISIS* MAY YET PASS.

WITH THE HOMELANDER TALKING TO THOSE FUCKING MANIACS? YEAH, RIGHT.

I'M GONNA CHECK INTO THE MANDARIN, CHILL FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS.

*YOU GIVE ME A CALL IF YOU HEAR ANYTHING, OKAY?*

HMH.

GOOD GIRL, YER MAJESTY.

ALL RIGHT, BOYS, YOU MISS ME? BLOODY HELL, LOOK WHO IT IS!

SHOULD WE NAIL DOWN ALL THE CHAIRS AN' THAT? HERE, YOU BUNG THE TELLY OUT THE WINDOW, FRENCHIE'S GONNA BE HEARTBROKEN...!

UH, YEAH.

I WAS JUST EXPLAININ' ABOUT THAT.

I HAD SOME SHIT HAPPEN... I...

I STILL AIN'T SURE HOW IT'S GONNA TURN OUT. BUT I THINK THE WORST IS OVER, AN' THERE AIN'T A WHOLE LOT I CAN DO ABOUT IT ANYHOW. I JUST GOTTA WAIT.

AN' I...

I WANNA APOLOGIZE.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, MATE. LAST TIME ANYONE PISSED ME OFF I STABBED THE CUNT TO DEATH, SO WHAT'S A BIT O' BROKEN FURNITURE BETWEEN FRIENDS?

WHERE WERE YOU, ANYWAY?

EHHHRRRR FLYIN' VISIT TO SEE RAYNER. DIDN'T GET A WINK O' SLEEP.

OH SHIT, DAKOTA BOB. WE STILL EVEN OPERATIN'?

WELL, THAT'S THE BIG FUCKIN' QUESTION, INNIT? VIC CAN GUT THE C.I.A. AN' PULL OUR FUNDIN' LIKE THAT.

BUT NO ONE'S HEARD ANYTHIN' SO FAR. IT MIGHT BE VOUGHT DON'T WANNA CHANCE THEIR ARM, WHAT WITH ALL THE DIRT WE GOT ON EVERYONE. SO JUST FOR NOW IT'S BUSINESS AS USUAL.

TELL THAT TO THE BLOODY HOMELANDER...

EXACTLY. SO WE CARRY ON DIGGIN', WE KEEP UP THE SURVEILLANCE.

IN YOUR CASE, THAT MEANS GOIN' THROUGH THE FILES ONE MORE TIME, JUST IN CASE WE MISSED--

AW, YOU GOTTA BE SHITTIN' ME! *AGAIN?*

WITH A FINE TOOTHCOMB, AS THEY SAY.

YOU KNOW HOW MANY TIMES I--

YOU WANNA USE MY COMPUTER? THINK YOURS IS ON THE BLINK AT THE MINUTE.

*FUCK...!*

UM...ARE WE NO' GONNA...

I MEAN THE THING WI' HIM AN' HIS--

HIS BUSINESS IS HIS BUSINESS.

...AS WE MOVE INTO THE NEXT PHASE, THE COLORS AND TIGHTS APPROACH IS GOING TO BE INCREASINGLY SIDELINED. SO IT WON'T BE A MAJOR CONCERN IF WE BEGIN USING UP SOME OF THE SURPLUS MATERIAL.

WE'RE NOT CONCERNED ABOUT THE FINANCIAL HIT?

WELL, THAT'S THE INTERESTING THING: VICTORY REPORT THAT SALES OF PAYBACK AND G-MEN TITLES HAVE NOT BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED BY THE TEAMS' REAL-LIFE DISAPPEARANCES. MERCHANDISING ALSO REMAINS HEALTHY.

PEOPLE STILL THINK THESE CHARACTERS ARE COMING BACK. AND BY THE TIME THEY REALIZE THEY AREN'T, THE DEFENSE CONTRACTS--ALL BEING WELL--SHOULD BE STARTING TO KICK IN.

THE TRICK, OF COURSE, WILL BE FOR US TO SUCCESSFULLY REACH THE NEXT PHASE. HENCE TEAM TITANIC.

SO LONG AS WE'RE, AH, REALLOCATING PERSONNEL...WHAT ABOUT THE HOMELANDER AND HIS EXTRACURRICULAR PURSUITS?

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IF WE'RE GOING TO PUT ANYONE OUT TO GRASS...

WELL, YOU KNOW WE HAVE THE MEANS. WE ALWAYS HAVE.

IT REMAINS LARGELY A QUESTION OF TIMING, AND I CERTAINLY AGREE WE'RE A MAJOR STEP CLOSER TO THE DAY.

MM.

WHAT ARE THE MEANS?

YOU'VE NEVER TOLD ME.

NO, I HAVEN'T.

HE SPENT THE FIRST PART OF HIS LIFE CONFINED IN A ROOM WITH A NUCLEAR WEAPON. WE'VE TAKEN A LOT OF RISKS WITH THE HOMELANDER IN THE NAME OF PROFIT, BUT WE WEREN'T GOING TO UNLEASH POWER LIKE HIS WITHOUT MAINTAINING AN ULTIMATE SANCTION.

WOULD A NUKE WORK?

OF COURSE.

HEROGASM. YOU'RE GOING TO DROP IT ON HEROGASM.

THAT'S CERTAINLY BEEN DISCUSSED. BUT IF WE EVER REACH THAT STAGE OUR PROBLEMS WILL INVOLVE MUCH MORE THAN A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL.

BESIDES, NO MATTER WHAT THE LOCATION, YOU CAN'T DETONATE A DEVICE LIKE THAT AND EXPECT IT TO PASS UNNOTICED. WE'D QUITE SIMPLY NEVER HEAR THE END OF IT.

SO...?

SO, OUR PLAN FOR THE HOMELANDER IS SPECIFIC TO HIM ALONE. I'LL SHOW YOU THE DETAILS WHEN WE'RE BACK AT THE OFFICE, IF YOU LIKE.

AH...YES. YES, I WOULD.

THE CHECK, PLEASE.

I REALLY APPRECIATE YOU TAKING ME INTO YOUR CONFIDENCE LIKE THIS. I'M QUITE FLATTERED, AS A MATTER OF FACT.

NO REASON TO BE. I'VE BEEN QUITE FRANK ABOUT MY HOPES FOR YOUR CAREER AT VOUGHT.

YES...

NEVER MORE SO THAN WHEN YOU INSTRUCTED TEAM TITANIC TO LOOK AFTER ME. I WAS QUITE TAKEN ABACK BY THAT, YOU MADE ME FEEL VERY SAFE.

BUT I SHOULD TELL YOU, I FEEL SAFE AROUND YOU ANYWAY.

HMM.

I'M NOT SURE IF I SHOULD TELL YOU, MS. BRADLEY.

BUT I FEEL I CAN RELAX AROUND YOU.

OH.

OH SHIT.

BUTCHER?

YEAH?

GET READY TO BE ONE SMUG MUTHAFUCKA.

HERE, THIS SOUNDS ALL RIGHT.

YOU REMEMBER THE IDENT CODES I FOUND ON THE REQUEST FOR BLACK NOIR'S A.V.8? THE PRIORITY CLASSIFICATION, GOT CANCELLED THE SAME DAY?

UH...

I SAID ONE CODE WAS BRADLEY, THE OTHER WAS F.S. OH-OH-OH: MEANIN' ZERO-ZERO-ZERO. I TOLD YOU IT WAS A DEAD END.

IT AIN'T ZERO-ZERO-ZERO, IT'S OH-OH-OH. I JUST SAID WHAT I THOUGHT I SEEN.

WHO THE FUCK PUTS THREE LETTER OHS TOGETHER...?

I AIN'T FEELIN' ALL THAT SMUG YET, MATE.

YOU WILL. I DID THE SEARCH ON THE WRONG CODE.

YOU CALL THE LEGEND AN' GET ME INTO THE VOUGHT SYSTEM TODAY, AN' I JUST MIGHT GIVE YOU BLACK FUCKIN' NOIR ON A PLATE.

THAT'LL MEAN GOIN' TO SEE HIM...

BLACK NOIR AGAIN? I THOUGHT YOU SAID THAT WAS NOTHIN'?

AIN'T QUITE SURE.

HE THINKS BLACK NOIR'S A POSSIBLE WAY INTO THE SEVEN. I THINK IT'S WORTH PURSUIN', IF ONLY 'COS WE'VE GOT FUCK ALL ELSE.

THAT'S NO' NOTHIN'...!

WAIT A MINUTE, WHAT ABOUT THESE--THIS WHATEVER-IT-IS YOU WERE TALKIN' ABOUT BLACKMAILIN' THE HOMELANDER WITH? WHAT ELSE DO WE NEED BESIDES THAT?

VOUS ETES BEHIND THE TIMES, PETIT HUGHIE. WATCH THE TAPES, SEE THE HOMELANDER TALK TO HIS REFLECTION LIKE THE MADDEST BASTARD.

IT WILL BE TOO LATE, HE TELLS US. HE WILL BE LE ROI D'ENFER.

WELL IF HE'S GONNA DO SOMETHIN', WHY NOT FUCKIN' *USE IT*--?

YOU AIN'T BEEN LISTENIN'. WE'RE TALKIN' ABOUT A WORLD WHERE BLACKMAIL DON'T MEAN NOTHIN'.

WE PLAY OUR HAND NOW, WE MIGHT JUST SEND HIM OVER THE EDGE. THE TOSSER'S BEEN SHOOTIN' DOWN AIRLINERS AN' DROPPIN' PEOPLE OUTTA THE SKY; WHO KNOWS WHAT'S GOIN' THROUGH HIS FUCKIN' HEAD?

WE DON'T WANNA EMBARRASS HIM.

WE WANNA SHORT-CIRCUIT THE CUNT.

UH, CAN I'VE A QUICK WORD WI' YOU?

CAN IT WAIT?

NO' REALLY.

I'VE BEEN THINKIN' A LOT ABOUT THE WAY THINGS ARE. AN' I'VE DECIDED I WANNA STOP--

OH FUCKIN' HELL, NOT AGAIN...!

WHAT?

HOW MANY BLEEDIN' TALKS'VE WE HAD THAT START WITH YOU THINKIN' ABOUT THE WAY THINGS ARE? YOU CAN'T HANDLE THIS, YOU DON'T LIKE THAT, YOU NEED MORE FUCKIN' TIME OFF.

IS THERE ANY CHANCE AT ALL O' YOU FINALLY TWIGGIN' WHAT WE DO HERE AN' SORTIN' YERSELF OUT? AN' ONCE AN' FOR FUCKIN' ALL, ***MAKIN' YER MIND UP...?***

AYE, I KEEP HEARIN' THAT. WELL, YOU'LL BE PLEASED TO HEAR I'VE MADE A BLOODY DECISION: I'M HAVIN' NOTHIN' ELSE TO DO WI' VIOLENCE.

I'LL INVESTIGATE, I'LL PLANT BUGS, I'LL DO WHATEVER'S NEEDED. BUT I'M NO' FUCKIN' HURTIN' FOLK ***EVER AGAIN***--ALL RIGHT?

AIN'T WE BEEN HERE BEFORE A COUPLA TIMES?

AYE, WE HAVE. AN' YOU SAID IT WASN'T RIGHT FOR ME, YOU SAID YOU COULD SEE I WASN'T LIKE THE REST O' THE BAMS.

I SAID IF YOU HAD A PROBLEM YOU COULD COME AN' TALK TO ME ABOUT IT. I DIDN'T MEAN GIVE ME AN ULTIMATUM AN' TELL ME TO FUCK MYSELF.

AW, THAT'S NO' WHAT I'M DOIN'...!

I'M JUST TRYNNA--I'M SAYIN' THIS SHITE GETS TO ME. I CAN'T JUST FORGET IT THE WAY YOU CAN, THE THINGS I'VE SEEN AN' THE THINGS I'VE DONE ARE ***WITH ME.***

THEY'RE IN MY DREAMS. THEY'RE FUCKIN' UP MY LIFE. AN'--

QU'EST-CE QUE C'EST THAT ***SMELL...?***

THAT'S THE RANK SMELL O' **JUSTICE** IN YER NOSTRILS, FROGGY--AN' ALL THE GARLIC IN **ROME** AIN'T GONNA WASH IT AWAY!

THAT'S THE SMELL O' NOW YA GOTTA ANSWER TO PARALACTIC...!

next: ASSASSINATION RUN

# DYNAMITE DISPATCHES

**Hey, Dynamite fans! Have any questions or suggestions? Email: LETTERS@DYNAMITE.NET**

## NEXT ISSUE:

The new regime takes power in Washington DC, forcing the Boys to go on the offensive and Hughie to reveal a long-kept secret. Meanwhile at Vought-American other secrets are revealed, as Frenchie and the Female do what they do best. Rayner ponders high treason, the Homelander sets loose the dogs of war, and Butcher gives Hughie an unexpected present- in part three of Over The Hill With The Swords Of A Thousand Men.

## ASK DYNAMITE:

ASK DYNAMITE: Send letters to:
letters@dynamite.net
and mark them "ok to print"!

Jason writes: Just wanted to say I am a huge Warehouse 13 fan and love the comics. It's my understanding that there's only going to be 5 issues is this correct and if it is why are there only going to be 5?

*Right now our plans are for 5 issues, each featuring a rotating writer team from the show itself! We hope to do more, but fans need to get the word out about the book and get to the stores to grab their copies!*

DAVID WRITES: I am wondering what is to become of the Green Hornet Year One series as it ended with Issue #12, Is there a Year Two in progress? I loved the series as many fans have also, I still would not like to see it go in such a short run. Thank You.

*That's all the classic Green Hornet for now, as matt had wrapped up his story in those 12 issues. We're working on some big pulp-y goodness for 2012 and the Hornet just may find himself a part of it (like it or not!)*

TERESA WRITES: I just finished reading The Boys: Butcher, Baker, Candlestickmaker #4 and all I can say is "WOW". That was one of the most brutal, gut-wrenching, powerful and affecting stories I've ever read. It just hits you in the gut and you don't mind. No story has ever done such an amazing job of establishing the mind-set and motivation of a character as this one did. Even Hughie's tragedy couldn't equal this. The Boys has always been a cringingly great, must-read book for me but this side-series issue sealed it... I can't live without The Boys!!

*All we can say is THANKS, Teresa (and keep reading).*

## DYNAMITE IN THE NEWS:

### DYNAMITE ON TWITTER!

*We're putting in a renewed effort to get the Dynamite word out hour by hour via Twitter, check it:* ***twitter.com/DynamiteComics*** *Thanks to everyone who's followed us in the last couple of weeks, let's keep it going!*

### *THE LONE RANGER RIDES AGAIN AT DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT*

**Dynamite Entertainment** and **Classic Media** welcome the return of America's quintessential Western hero - ***The Lone Ranger*** to the comic world! The masked man returns with a new #1 in January 2012 as an ongoing series. This new *The Lone Ranger* comic series kicks off with a six-part story called "Hard Country." To allow new fans to jump into the series, the first two issues will be included within a larger story. It will then move into a longer, serialized tale, respecting the excellent template provided by Brett Matthews and Sergio Cariello with John Cassaday, setting off on a new trail.

At the end of the Matthews series, The Lone Ranger and Tonto were ready to strike out in the old west, fighting for what is right and helping those in need. "Hard Country" is about the old west striking back - a harsh environment where only the tough really make it. This is the story about these two American legends, early in their development, as they learn this bleak reality. While they're not going to fold, they will come to see that this is a hard task they've set for themselves. A hard task in a vast "hard country."

"*The Lone Ranger* #1 begins our Hard Country arc with a heartbreaking tale of loss that holds a mirror up to John Reid's past," says writer Ande Parks. "The man John Reid has become in his *The Lone Ranger* identity was shaped by tragic loss. Now he sees that loss on the faces of a new generation. Can one man make a difference in the lives of a father and his children whose world is crumbling? The Lone Ranger is damn well going to try!"

"Kudos to Ande and Esteve doing an incredible job leading in to *The Lone Ranger* #1 and following up Brett, Sergio, and John's series so successfully with *The Lone Ranger: Death of Zorro* series, which has received a considerable amount of critical acclaim," said Dynamite President and Publisher Nick Barrucci. "*The Lone Ranger: Death of Zorro* showed fans that Ande and Esteve were the right successors for the series. They "know" *The Lone Ranger*, and are making the series their own. Fans will be excited when they read the first issue, and with covers by Award-Winning artists including an Alex Ross painted cover and Francesco Francavilla as the ongoing cover artist, *The Lone Ranger* will be a must-read book!"

"*The Lone Ranger* is arguably the most popular Western character of all time and we are thrilled to team up with Dynamite Entertainment to introduce fans to another adventure," said Nicole Blake EVP, Global Marketing & Consumer Products, Classic Media.

Here are some of the critic's reactions for *The Lone Ranger: Death of Zorro* series:

"Anyone who naturally finds themselves drawn to the legends of *Zorro* or *The Lone Ranger* will be enraptured by this crossover." - Comics Bulletin

"The *Death of Zorro* is a solid read!" - Major Spoilers

"*The Lone Ranger: The Death of Zorro* is, at its heart, the epitome of a good western story. It's the story of good people struggling against bad people. It's the story of a road dusty hero avenging a fallen hero." - Invest Comics

"A few months back I mentioned in a review that Dynamite currently publishes the finest comics. *The Death of Zorro* is another clear example proving that point.." - Inside Pulse

## DYNAMITE REVIEWS

### KIRBY: GENESIS #4

(GRAHAMCRACKERS.COM): "Kurt Busiek and Alex Ross continue their contribution to the Kirby Legacy. Busiek's storyline continues at a nice pace and Alex Ross's art is beyond amazing. As the villians' plan takes root (literally!) our heroes begin interacting. And all is not smooth sailing. And speaking of sailing, Kirby and his new friends have been flushed down into the bowels of the earth only to find new mysteries. With the promise of two new spin-off series coming soon, it's good to know that the heroes of yesterday are in good hands."

### THE GREEN HORNET GOLDEN AGE: REMASTERED

(SCOOP.DIAMONDGALLERIES.COM) : "This is the perfect read for a rainy afternoon when you are tired of innumerable crises, secret worlds and people who can jump between dimensions. The Green Hornet, always one of the most realistic characters in history, has found a place at Dynamite entertainment. And they are showing him the respect he deserves."

### WARLORD OF MARS #10

(SCOOP.DIAMONDGALLERIES.COM) : "Stephen Sadowski's work on this issue reminds us that denser storytelling is indeed possible on Mars. We've been huge fans – much to our initial surprise – of this series and its spin-offs. Here's an issue that increased our enjoyment of an already entertaining series."

### STAN LEE'S HOW TO WRITE COMIC BOOKS

CWR.COMICSWAITINGROOM.COM: "Sometimes you can just look at a book and say "Yep- that's going to be a massively popular Christmas gift," and this is one of those times. STAN LEE'S HOW TO WRITE COMICS benefits from having a huge name behind it, some excellent production design, and some good advice that people can use, making it an easy winner for someone looking to buy something cool for a young writer this holiday season."

### ZORRO RIDES AGAIN #4

(SCOOP.DIAMONDGALLERIES.COM) : "In addition to illustrating the solid covers featured on the series, Matt Wagner has been writing some of the best Zorro stories to surface since the daily strip by Don McGregor and Tom Yeats disappeared years ago. Zorro Rides Again #4 continues Wagner's daring ride with the character, injecting a major change into it that will be hard to ignore. The coloring is still a bit muted for our tastes, but artist Esteve Polls tells the story well."

### THE GREEN HORNET: YEAR ONE #12

(SCOOP.DIAMONDGALLERIES.COM) : "Writer (and cover artist) Matt Wagner and artist Aaron Campbell wrap up another story arc and the series detailing the early adventures of The Green Hornet. Setting up what would become the familiar operating practices of Britt Reid and Kato for years to come, Wagner and Campbell have done a bang-up job adding grit and hardboiled determination to both the good guys and bad guys in the story. Very enjoyable stuff."

### VAMPIRELLA #10

(COMICSBULLETIN.COM): "Vampirella is visceral action-horror exquisitely rendered by substitute artist Huebert Khan Michael. A surprise in itself. Usually, a guest artist means unwelcome shoddiness. Not here. Khan Michael has an affinity for Vampirella, capturing her distinctive look while displaying her savagery toward monsters."

### THE BOYS: BUTCHER, BAKER, CANDLESTICKMAKER #4

(COMICBOOKRESOURCES.COM): "There's a sense of dread throughout the issue that grows as you read and just smacks you in the face. Ennis is a master of this technique and, with Robertson, pulls it off expertly here. You know what's going to happen and it's worse than you think you know."